

A CORDIAL DROP.

BEING THE SUBSTANCE OF A

A Conversation betwixt Master and Journeyman, In a large Manufacturing Town in Yorkshire.

Mr. I'LL tell you what, JOHN—though I am not much surprised at a number of low-minded people joining in these disorderly proceedings, I cannot help wondering at you—you who possess an understanding somewhat above the common standard, and have had no despicable means of improving it.

John. Disorderly proceedings, Sir!—I never joined a riotous mob in my life, nor have I yet seen among my fellow-friends of liberty, any thing that was likely to cause such proceedings.

Mr. No! what did the evident dispositions and blasphemous outcries of the mob indicate in your late rejoicings for the success of the French arms?—What meant those infamous labels posted up on the corners of the streets, with a finger pointing at the words “DEATH OR LIBERTY?”—Why were the insignia on your waving flags demonstrative of your hatred of ROYALTY, and your utter abhorrence of the CONSTITUTION OF THIS COUNTRY, as by Law established?—Do these things bespeak a peaceable intention? Was it not very clear to every body, how easily the minds of the vulgar might at that moment of ignorant exultation, have been blown up into open flames of discord?

John. But did they proceed to any open acts of violence?

Mr. No—But why not? Because there was not a man among them hardy enough at that time to give the word of command, knowing that the military power was at hand in case of necessity; and certain it is, that the tranquillity of the place has for a long time been preserved by its authority alone.

John. It does not signify, Sir—we all know that our Constitution is imperfect—that those who govern are very expensive, and that we pay for it—that a many of us could do much better than they, and at a much less expence; and this we shall prove when a Reform in Parliament, agreeable to our wishes, takes place—which must sooner or later be done—and that the French have more liberty than we, and consequently are more happy.

Mr. Well, JOHN—draw your chair while I light my pipe, and explain to me now every particle of this defective Constitution;—where it is so defective—what effect would arise to the whole from some parts being rescinded—and how it certainly *may*, and *ought*, consistently with its own nature, be improved.

John. Why Sir—I cannot say I am equal to that—nor indeed have my other employments allowed me time sufficient to examine it thoroughly.

Mr. And that, JOHN, I fear, is, was, ever will and must be, the situation of every mechanic who minds his business as he ought:—whence you may see the necessity of *some* being placed in more easy circumstances, to enable them to study these things properly, and how just it is that they should be so far elevated in life as to render their